SENATE BILL 2552

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 30, relative to school attendance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 30, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

49-6-3022.

An LEA shall not prohibit a student, who has missed more than the maximum school days pursuant to the attendance policy of the LEA, from being promoted to the next grade if the student completes all of the required curriculum and coursework. The department of education shall require an LEA to obtain formal written proof from:

- (1) The parent or guardian of the student, who has been absent with an adequate excuse, as approved by written documentation, indicating the reasons for the student's failure to attend school;
- (2) Each teacher of the student indicating that the student completed all necessary curriculum and coursework required to be promoted to the next grade; and
- (3) Any additional information as required by the department or LEA.SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.